

Steppenwolf

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Omaha, Nebraska 68155

A JOURNAL OF POETRY AND OPINION

editor Philip Bootright

26 Oct. 71

associate

Miss Jean Shannon

Dear Hal,

Sorry to be such a poor correspondent... but have been hard pressed at hospital and with trying to start production of Steppen #5. New printer, very likely photo offset this time - rather than now too expensive letter press. But everything still unresolved - no printer yet contracted, either.

Speaking of printers/publishers - I was sorry to hear of your experience re: FRAME-UP. But you know, Hal, the thing I can't seem to really grasp is why? I mean, isn't it in a publisher's interest to try his best to sell a little he himself has brought out? Weird as hell, experiences like one you had - and it happens to other writers as well. I don't get it.

Amused that you picked up the bit of testimony by pub. of Omaha World-Herald. Listen, my friend. The W-H still thinks Warren Harding

is alive & well in Washington (Among the locals here, the paper is always called "the Weir-Herald" — and so it is.) the only daily in Omaha, as you perhaps know. Sure, we get the news ... or some of it ... or some kinds ... or.

Hentoff? A New Yorker so far as I know, but I've never met him. White, but prides himself (or seems to) on his emotional rapport with blacks especially jazz musicians. Long time writer (critic) on contemporary jazz — now writes an occasional novel, I believe, and also a kind of hip (?) social commentator. I know him only by reputation ... a bit too noisey for my personal taste. But what's his beef with you?

"Ochie" riddle Hill opaque to us — but I now think you are probably right in believing K.T. did not author it. And for same reason you give

Must go, more later —
take care of yourself,

Rei/(& Jean)